DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir. Proper maintenance services continue to be provided at the residence of Members of Parliament in V.P. House, North and South Avenues and Ferozeshah Road. There has not been any change in the manner of providing maintenance services for long. No complaint of any nexus between contractors and engineers has come to notice.

(b) Repairs to old/broken chairs, curtains, sofa sets and such other repairs are done promptly, depending on the condition of the articles, etc. Procurement and supply of new articles of furniture and furnishings takes longer because in such cases samples have to be approved by the Member of Parliament concerned and sanction of the House Committee has to be obtained.

(c) Attendance of maintenance complaints and maintenance works are regularly monitored by concerned officers and also monitored by House Committee of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. The system of complaint receipt and monitoring has also been computerized for MPs' bungalows and flats.

Government accommodation to spouses

631. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the event of retirement or death of the Central Government employee the accommodation allotted to him/her is allotted in the name of his/her spouse, who are in Government employment;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the spouses of Government employees who are working in autonomous organisations are not granted H.R.A. because of sharing accommodation with their spouses and are also not entitled for allotment of Government accommodation in their names in the above circumstances; and

(c) if so, the justifications therefor and what remedial steps Government propose to take to remove the anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) In the event of retirement or death of a Central Government employee, the accommodation allotted to the deceased/ retired employee is regularized/allotted in the name of the spouse, if the

latter is employed in an eligible office of the Government of India, and fulfils some other prescribed conditions.

(b) Under the applicable Rules and Government instructions, a Government employee is not entitled to draw house rent allowance, if his wife/her husband has been allotted accommodation at the same station by the Central Government, State Government concerned, any autonomous Public Undertaking or semi-Government Organisation such as Municipality, Port Trust, etc., irrespective of whether he/she resides in that accommodation or separately in accommodation rented by him/her.

Since the employees working in autonomous organizations are not eligible for allotment of the Central Government's General Pool residential accommodation, such accommodation in occupation of his/her spouse is not regularized/allotted in the circumstances mentioned above.

(c) As the employees of ineligible autonomous organizations are not eligible for allotment of General Pool residential accommodation, there is no anomaly. In view of acute shortage of accommodation, there is no proposal to consider eligibility for allotment of Government accommodation to employees working in autonomous organizations.

Gap between platform and coach on metro stations

†632. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the gap between the platform and the coach on the newly made four metro stations in Delhi is more than the prescribed norms which can cause an accident at any time;

(b) if so, the steps taken by government to rectify the defects as well as to make it accident free; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) At two stations, namely, Pratap Nagar and Shastri Nagar, the gap between the platform edge and the coach, at a few isolated

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.